simplified so that the Small Scale Sector will now be able to avail of this benefit without the need for import licences in their favour. A special import facility for recognised service centres has been introduced in the new Policy. The new Policy has continued with earlier provisions of giving double weightage to exports of the products manufactured by the Small Scale Sector for grant of recognition as Export House/Trading House. This facility is also available for grant of recognition as State Trading House.

(b) The suggestions received from various quarters were duly considered while formulating the policy. The suggestions which were found acceptable have been incorporated.

(c) Does not arise.

Increase in the Modernisation Cost of Durgapur Steel Plant

491. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Durgapur Steel Plant's modernisation design was originally prepared by Mecon at a cost of Rs. 900 crores, which could lead to an increase of one million tonnes of steel production per annum ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Mecon was bypassed and final contract was jointly signed by a multinational company of West Germany and Russia forming a consortium at a cost of Rs. 2667 crores ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that TISCO has modernised and planned to increase steel production by 1.7 million tonnes at a cost of Rs. 843 crores in three phases whereas the final increase in steel production is below 0.7 million tonnes in Durgapur Steel Plant after modernisation; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take against SAIL authorities and Government officials ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Detailed Project Report prepared by M/s. Metallurgical & Engineering Consultants (India) Ltd. (MECON) envisaged modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP) at a total cost of Rs. 1357 crores but no increase in name plate capacity of 1·6 MT was envisaged. In fact, MECON are the prime consultants for the ongoing project. The definitive cost estimates prepared by SAIL, jointly with MECON, have put the cost of the modernisation project at Rs. 2667.4 crores. MECON were associated with the finalisation of contracts to various tenderers for the project.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Government will take appropriate action if any serious irregularity becomes evident.

Project Cost of Pepsi Foods

492. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pepsi Foods has spent Rs. 5.97 crore on pre-operative expenses and Rs. 1.459 crore on contingencies and has a working capital expenditure of Rs. 3.919 crore in 1989; and

(b) whether the above expenditure has been included in the project cost of Rs. 50 crores?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The information sought relates to the day-to-day functioning of M/s. Pepsi Foods Private Limited and the same is not maintained by Government.

Price Hike by Aluminium Producers

493. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) what are the circumstances under which the aluminium producers have hiked the basic price of the metal recently;

(b) the number of times the aluminium prices were raised during this year and last year together with the details thereof;

(c) whether any formal announcements were made in this regard; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Due to increases in the cost of inputs primary producers of aluminium have increased the prices of primary aluminium by about Rs. 2000 per tonne in April, 1990.

(b) During 1989-90, there was no increase in the price of aluminium by the primary producers.

(c) and (d) After the decontrol over price and distribution of aluminium from 1-3-1989, no notifications fixing price are issued by Government

खाद्य-प्रसंस्करण उद्योग का विकास किया जाना

494. **श्री विश्वासराव रामाराव पाटिल : क्या खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार खेती करने, फसल की कटाई करने, भंडारण और ढुलाई के दोषपूर्ण तरीकों की वजह से फलों, सब्जियों और अन्य खाद्य पदार्थों की भारी मात्रा को नष्ट होने से बचाने के लिए विदेशी अथवा स्वदेशी प्रोद्योगिकी पर आधारित समेकित खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग के विकासार्थ एक व्यापक अध्ययन करने का विचार रखती है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में सरकार की योजनाओं और प्रस्तावों का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

वस्त्र मंत्री, साथ में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री शरद यादव) : (क) और (ख) फल एवं सब्जी प्रसंस्करण उद्योगों, मांस प्रसंस्करण उद्योगों, समुद्री मत्स्य उद्योगों, पैकेजिंग उद्योगों इत्यादि सहित खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योगों के विकास के लिए समय-समय पर विभिन्न अध्ययन किये जाते हैं ।

विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योगों की उन्नति और विकास में सहायता करने के लिए वार्षिक योजना 1990–91 के लिए कई योजनाएं तैयार की गई हैं ।

Purchase of Goods from India by M/s. A. B. Bofors

495 SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s. A. B. Bofors had given an undertaking for the import of goods from India as counter trade in the Howitzer deal;